

cannot be distinguished externally except by the much shorter hind feet of *M. woodwardi*.

Skull much smaller than that of *M. tunneyi* in all dimensions, though of the same general shape. Supraorbital ridges less developed. Anteorbital plate less projected forwards. Palatal foramina less open. Bullæ smaller. Molars similar in structure, but both narrower and shorter.

Dimensions of the type:—

Head and body not measured by collector, and evidently stretched; tail 114 mm.; hind foot 25.5; ear 17.

Skull: back of interparietal to tip of nasals 31.5; zygomatic breadth 18; nasals 11.5 × 3.3; interorbital breadth 5; greatest divergence of parietal ridges 12; palatilar length 15.7; diastema 9; palatal foramina 6.8; greatest diameter of bullæ 8.3; length of upper molar series 6; breadth of  $m^1$  2.2.

*Hab.* Lagrange Bay, N.W. Australia.

*Type.* Old female. B.M. no. 5. 1. 9. 1. Collected January 1899 by J. T. Tunney, and presented by the Perth Museum through Mr. B. H. Woodward, after whom the species is named. Two specimens examined.

Closely related as it is to *M. tunneyi* in all essential characters, *M. woodwardi* is readily distinguishable by its much shorter feet and smaller skull and teeth.

#### XLIV.—A new Fruit-Bat from Sierra Leone.

By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

THE British Museum owes to Canon F. C. Smith the skin of a Rousset from Sierra Leone clearly differing from any species hitherto described. It may be called

#### *Roussettus smithii*, sp. n.

Most nearly allied to *R. angolensis*, with which it forms a distinct section of the genus, but differing in the following characters:—Size much smaller, the skull also narrower and with less widely expanded zygomata. Fur shorter and more resembling that of ordinary Roussets (that of *R. angolensis* being unusually long and silky), and not extending so far down the hind limbs, the proximal half only of the tibiae being clothed. Ears narrower. Colour dull brown without rufous suffusion; neck more greyish.

Skull more lightly built than in *R. angolensis*, but agreeing with it in all essential respects, such as the very slight deflection of the brain-case, the co-ossification of the pre-maxillæ, and the swollen supraorbital margins. Teeth of the same squarish form, but smaller throughout, and similar in relative proportions, with the exception that the last molar, both above and below, is very much smaller, about one-third instead of one-half the size of the tooth immediately preceding it.

Dimensions of the type (not fully adult):—

Forearm 70 mm.

Head and body (c.) 112; tail 11; pollex (c. u.) 28·5; third finger, metacarpal 49·5, first phalanx 32·5, second phalanx 41; lower leg and hind foot (c. u.) 46.

Skull: greatest length 38·5; zygomatic breadth 20·5; supraorbital foramina to tip of nasals 18; breadth of brain-case 15; front of canine to back of  $m^3$  14·8;  $p^4$  2·3 × 1·8;  $m^2$  1·4 × 1·2;  $p_3$  2·7 × 1·7;  $m_3$  1·3 × 1·1.

*Hab.* Sierra Leone.

*Type.* Nearly adult female. B.M. 8. 9. 11. 1. Collected and presented by Canon F. C. Smith.

The many important characters by which *Rousettus angolensis* differs from all other members of the genus have recently been brought out in Dr. K. Andersen's admirable notes on the group\*, so that no comparison of *R. smithii* with other species is required. From *R. angolensis* it is at once distinguishable by its smaller size (allowing, of course, for the slight immaturity of the type), smaller teeth, and, especially, by its much smaller posterior molars.

I have much pleasure in naming this Rousset after its discoverer, to whom the National Museum is indebted for various acceptable specimens.

XLV.—*On the Dentition of the Diastema in some Fossil Reptiles referred to the Gomphodontia, from the Upper Karroo Rocks of Cape Colony.* By H. G. SEELEY, F.R.S., F.G.S., King's College, London.

ONE of the notable features in the dentition of the fossil Reptilia which most closely resemble mammals is the toothless interval in the jaws between the canine and molar teeth. A similar toothless interspace is present in existing mammals,

\* Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. (7) xix. pp. 501 *et seqq.* (1907).